The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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"CAN'T-STRIKE" LEGISLATION IS BASED ON "SUPERIOR CLASS" IDEAL

The "can't-strike" wave has again struck New York and powerful business interests in that state are demanding this legislation.

As usual, power and greed is blind to history and forgetful of every experience. England's "can't-strike" record is forgotten, the collapse of this system in Australia is ignored and today's turmoil and dissension in Colorado and Kansas mean nothing to those who would handcuff workers to their jobs.

Rhetoric, sophistry and legalisms fail to conceal the viciousness of this proposal. Its one-sidedness is apparent to any open-minded citizen. It not only fails of its purpose but it engenders contempt for all law. Workers might be forced into obedience, but they cannot be convinced that they must labor against their will in a land dedicated to freedom.

This resentment bodes ill for the theory of equality before the law.

Workers do not fail to note that only they are denied freedom. No other element of our citizenship is compelled to give service against their will. No other element is forced to accept the edict of a state tribunal in matters relating to wages, salary or other remuneration.

No other element is questioned on their cost of living or denied the right to set their own living standard.

It may be said that profits of corporations can be limited by taxation, so wages may be fixed by law.

There is no analogy between profits and wages, despite contrary reasoning by superficial men.

The corporation may be taxed, but no one suggests that the managers of the corporation be interfered with. Their living standard is never charted with the mathematical exactness that workers are subjected to. These managers have a free hand in setting their own wages and this is a charge on the corporation before profits are considered.

No capitalist is ever cited to show how many limousines, touring cars, town houses, country estates, or trips to Europe are necessary for him. He is the sole judge. He alone sets his income, charges it as an expense to his business, the same as interest, depreciation, etc. After these charges are cared for, he figures his profit.

To compare the regulation of corporations or the limiting of profits with the regulation of human beings struggling for a wage that assures decent living standards is to question one's intellect.

Neither can defenders of "can't-strike" legislation logically plead that human rights shall be subverted to "service to the public."

"Service to the public" does not apply to capitalists who close their plants and bring suffering to a community or to monopolists who seize natural resources.

"Service to the public" does not apply to banks that contract credit, boost interest rates, deflate values and cause general ruin.

"Can't-strike" legislation revives the ancient theory of master and slave, baron and serf. It puts workers separate and apart from all other groups.

It installs the machinery of the state in the home of every wage earner, while the men responsible for this condition decry class legislation and insist that government shall not interfere with the individual.

It recalls the theory of ancient Greece, which is secretly accepted by those who lack the courage and ability to openly defend their "superior class" belief.

Twenty-five centuries ago the world's greatest philosophers insisted that by holding workers to their tasks intellectual development and moral perfection of the few were possible.

Although this theory was defended by the greatest minds the world ever knew, slavery was swept aside by the democratizing and humanizing influences of the ages.

It is now taken up by second-rate political accidents, money changers, traders and other idealless persons who are interested in nothing but profit and their own convenience.

They talk of "service to the public," though their lives are a contradiction to this claim. "Service" is no part of their lives. Their phrases to flatter, fool, cajole and exploit the people are tiresome and lack originality.

Workers oppose "can't-strike" laws, and will not recognize them.

The proposal is only worthy of the contempt of every genuine American.

NEWSPAPERS RUN FOR PROFIT; WILL NOT PROBE THEMSELVES

New York, Jan. 7.—Let the newspapers of the country probe their attitude on industrial questions, says the bureau of industrial research in its "Challenge to the Press," issued to 700 editors and publishers.

When asked for his comment on this plan, President Gompers replied:

"I regret that I can offer no optimistic opinion as to the outcome. Proprietors of great newspapers are primarily employers. Their chief source of income is from other employers, by whom I mean the large advertising interests. It is my opinion that first of all no serious self-examination on the part of the press can be secured, and if it could be secured it would be an examination by a party of biased character and therefore fruitless so far as the general welfare might be concerned."

The bureau of industrial research was associated with the interchurch world movement's investigation of the steel strike. Their report states that the public press "failed notably to acquaint the public with the facts." This general policy of the press has caused the bureau to issue a questionnaire to editors relative to securing information on industrial questions and on the standard, ability, etc., of reporters assigned to labor matters.

"Workers have lost faith in the public press and are establishing publications of their own, says the bureau.

"The press is challenged by recent events to investigate itself in regard to labor news."

"The gravest duty that confronts the American press today is to bring these questions that have come out of the war into the forum of public discussion. The competent, independent, investigating reporter must come back to his own."

Insanity Increase Traced to Poverty

New York, Jan. 7.—The age-old question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" is answered by a report of the state charities aid association, which says hard times cause insanity.

"More persons were sent to insane asylums in this state last year than in any previous year. At the end of 1921, patients in the institutions for the insane numbered 35,-468, an increase of 2,443 since 1920. This is 6,642 more than the hospitals can accommodate.

"One of the major causes for this condition is "unemployment and distress, due to economic conditions."

A disregard for disabled veterans of the world war has filled the insane hospitals with these soldiers, says the report. These soldiers were suffering from shell shock, but their troubles have increased during the year.

The report indicates one of the acts society must pay for its disregard of bad economic conditions.

WOULD CONCEAL HUNGER.

Huntington, W. Va., Jan. 7.—Governor Morgan notified a Baltimore newspaper that Minden (Fayette county) miners are not in need of assistance, and that the Red Cross relief worker proves this statement is incorrect.

Now that Huntington has responded to the appeal of Mayor Chapman and the committeemen, and Minden's very narrow escape from a deplorable situation has been forestalled, a brief resume of the entire situation would not be amiss," says the Advocate.

"When the pinch of poverty first hit Minden practically only a dozen families were affected. This increased rapidly day by day. As many as six families were being aided in the destitute list every day before conditions at Minden were displaced to the point of huntington.

"There was one prevalent comment at Minden last week. It was reflected in every statement for relief sent out. It was this: If Minden had gone without outside assistance for another 10 days conditions would have been such as to shame the heart of every citizen of West Virginia."

Mayor Campbell urges further contributions, and calls on West Virginia cities to aid.

ACCIDENTS ARE COSTLY.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 7.—In the six years the state workmen's compensation law has been in existence, $89,029,651 have been expended by employers and liability companies for compensation insurance. Of this sum $12,182,790 has been paid, and the remainder is yet to be distributed under the allotment law.

During the six years 16,166 fatalities have been reported, and 70,-in injuries to workers total 410,-55, and the minor injuries, 760,761.

EMPLOYES OWN LITTLE.

New York, Jan. 7.—The "partnership" fairy tale that steel trust publicity agents love to relate, when describing Garyism, is not sustained by the steel trust's report on common stock ownership.

It is shown that the holders of his stock total 107,429 persons. The number of workers employed by the trust in normal times approximates 50,000. If all the stock was held by employes, every share would be divided between more than two workers.

CO-OPS. HAVE GOOD YEAR.

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 7.—Savings or profits made by co-operative farm associations in 43 counties of this state during the year amount to $2,-[illegible].

N. Y. TENEMENTS VILE, SAYS INVESTIGATOR

New York, Jan. 7.—"In 17 years in this city so crowded, so much in want of repair as now, city," declares Dr. Annie S. Daniel, hospital physician and tenement house investigator.

"With the exorbitant rents and the absolute lack of considerations at the hands of the landlords, with paper falling from the walls and in many cases having been dropped from the lathing, and no chance of repair unless it will further boost of rent is forthcoming how can you expect anything but the worst conditions which cannot result in good Americanism?"

"There is a moral side which must be considered. The promiscuity of growing children with the parents makes for laxity in morals. Then the efforts to meet rent and living conditions by taking lodgers has resulted in a not inconsiderable number of illegitimate children.

"I have found that the city laws, which were relaxed somewhat during the war have not been tightened up again. It is very bad that whole families should be allowed to live in a single room, as in many instances I know, and the prices charged are all out of proportion to the services rendered."

SELL OLD MILK.

New York, Jan. 7.—Milk dealers are recapping unsold milk and forcing artificebrakers to dispose of it as fresh milk is the charge made by striking milk wagon drivers to Dr. Copeland, the health commissioner.

"This practice," the strikers say, "has not been confined to recapping once in the life of a quart of milk, but the same milk is dumped in some instances recapped three and four different times. Grade A milk produced in this way, if unsold, is then offered to the public as Grade A."

"We can furnish you affidavits and evidence to substantiate our complaints, and your desire to investigate these charges, and we sincerely hope you can do something to protect the public health in this matter."

The strike is over wage differences, which the milk companies refuse to arbitrate, the drivers say.

In the anti-union shop, Dr. Copeland has publicly declared that the companies are jeopardizing the public health because of their attitude.

"MR. FACING-BOTH-WAYS."

Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 7.—In commenting on the "can't-strike" legislation by Ben W. Hooper, vice chairman of the railroad labor board, the Labor World of this city says:

"His present attitude recalls a former campaign in this state when he was dubbed by a political opponent, 'Mr. Facing-Both-Ways.'"

Mr. Hooper is an ex-governor of this state. He was appointed a member of the public group on the railroad labor board, after he supposed to be neutral. While addressing a New York gathering of railroad executives he lined up with the railroads by favoring legislation to outlaw strikes.

TEST MINIMUM WAGE.

Boston, Jan. 7.—Three women social workers broke down when they attempted to test the state minimum wage commission's rule that a working girl can live on 78 cents a day.

Not one of them was able to carry the test as they originally intended.

"You can exist, but you cannot live," they declared.

The 78 cents a day for meals is arrived at on the $18 week minimum which the commission declares is sufficient for a working girl.

HUNGER LOWERS WAGE IN TIMBER INDUSTRY

Seattle, Jan. 7.—"The starvation policy of the lumber barons has made unheard of wage reductions in this industry possible," says Ray B. Canterbury, president of the International Union of Timber Workers.

"Never at any time have market conditions warranted a suspension of operations in this industry and in fact the mills and camps would have run full blast continually but for the deliberate plan on the part of timber owners," he says.

"Large sections of the country have suffered worse than others. The southern pine belt has received the worst of this conspiracy because of the fact that in part of this nation there are murderous organizations of unions while in other parts of the nation they are merely starved to death for organizing. Lumber workers in the south are receiving as low as 75 cents for a 12-hour day with the most miserable and oppressive rules that compel them to patronize company stores. In the great Pacific coast common labor is paid as low as $16 per month in the woods and $1.75 for a 10-hour day in the mills. The Pacific coast has nothing to boast of, with wages ranging from $2.20 to $2 per day of eight hours, as it is not least $3 a day under a bare living existence."

FINAL SELLERS OF MILK ARE HELD RESPONSIBLE

New York, Jan. 7.—The appellate court in Brooklyn has ruled that milk distributors and retail dealers are responsible for the quality of the product they sell, whether it be sealed, canned, bottled or boxed. A new trial was ordered in the case of an 18-months' old baby made sick by milk of certified grade. A quality that the parents bought from a milk concern that has joined the "can't-strike" drive in the action of milk wagon drivers.

The parents of the baby claim that the milk contained worms, or "dragon fly larvae." A lower court dismissed the complaint, but the appellate court held the company's agent to fasten the bottle cap on the farmer is no defense, as it furnished the bottles and the labels. The case will be appealed.

The teamsters have notified city health authorities that they will prove by affidavits and other evidence that the milk companies are selling stale stored fresh milk that has been recapped and relabeled as many as four consecutive days.

ALLEGED CO-OPS. IN COURT.

Chicago, Jan. 7.—The alleged co-op. movement known as the co-operative realty board has secured a dismissal of the receiver that has had charge of its affairs. The dismissal order was signed by the federal court of appeals. Opinions in a single room, as in many instances. I know, and the prices charged are all out of proportion to the services rendered."

The alleged co-operators were ordered under what is known as the common-law trust, by which the legal title and control of property is placed under the control of a trustee. Under this system the Judge Copeland, the health commissioner.

"This practice," the strikers say, "has not been confined to recapping once in the life of a quart of milk, but the same milk is dumped in some instances recapped three and four different times. Grade A milk produced in this way, if unsold, is then offered to the public as Grade A."

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CRIMINAL BUILDING BOSSES BLAMED

New York, Jan. 7.—Editors and other "molders of public opinion" who thunder at organized labor because of irregularities within its ranks, ignore this public statement by Samuel Untermyer, counsel to the Lockwood committee, that is investigating the building industry in this state:

"If the criminal combinations of employers that are still being sheltered under the roof of the building trades employers' association were one-half as amenable to reason and argument as the officials of the unions have proven to be, the abuses, extortion and criminal conspiracies that have not yet disappeared from the building trades would soon be ended."

Mr. Untermyer made this reference to the New York stock exchange:

"The courts continue to enforce the despotic decrees of that monument of monuments to the folly and incompetency of government in the person of the New York stock exchange, which remains unincorporated and unregulated and whose self-made laws in the support of legalized gambling are above and beyond the law."

Free Life Insurance Is Old Time Shell Game

New York, Jan. 7.—The Erie and the Delaware and Hudson railroads are working the old-time industrial graft game, even as free life insurance. All employes have been included in the joyous pastime.

These employes believe that they have paid for this insurance in rounded measure, that the companies are working on this round with other people's money and are attempting to develop a company union method.

This is especially true of the Erie railroad, which was the first to contract its repair work to private contractors. These contractors cut the wages, lengthened hours and reduced working conditions. Even crane-tenders on this road are working for a private company.

President Gompers is quoted as follows on the Erie's new "free" insurance:

"Schemes such as those outlined by the Erie and the Delaware and Hudson to provide blanket insurance for their employes constitute no new device. Free insurance is not provided by large employers unless these employers expect some tangible return, in fact, there is no such thing as free insurance in such cases.

"The companies regard such insurance as an investment upon which they confidently expect a satisfactory return.

"It is undoubtedly the case with these companies that they expect the insurance policies to supplant union cards. Undoubtedly the companies desire by those cheap methods to destroy loyalty to the union in order that they may the more readily impose conditions which organized workers would not accept.

"Workers do not want gifts. They do want justice and, they labor through experience that corporations do not give justice in the form of charity.

"We have been taught to beware of the 'Greek bearing gifts.' is the comment by William H. Johnston, president of the International Association of Machinists.

FAVOR COMPENSATION.

Washington, Jan. 7.—A workmen's compensation law for the district of Columbia, to cover all the United States employes' compensation commission. There is no provision for compensating workers in the nation's capital, although compensation laws exist in 42 states.

While the District of Columbia is not an industrial center, the commission insists that congress should pass compulsory compensation legislation.

PHOTO ENGRAVERS OUT.

New York, Jan. 7.—In an attempt to establish the 48-hour week employers have locked out 1,500 engraving photo journeymen. The bosses are not satisfied with destroying the 44-hour week, but insist on a wage reduction of $4 a week.

The workers declare that the move is to restore the open shop, and that it is part of a plan to put the industry on the 48-hour basis.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Long Beach, Cal., Jan. 7.—The Typographical union's new contract provides for $46 a week, day work, and $48, night work, with the 44-hour week. Time and a half for overtime. The rates are an increase of $2 per week and date back to November 1.

"Can't-Strike" Law Is Favored In New York

New York, Jan. 7.—In an announcement covered with molasses and sugar, the New York board of trade and transportation states that it has drafted a "can't-strike" bill that will "protect the interests of the public, the employer and the employe."

It will be noticed that the employe is left out in the cold, although he is most vitally affected because he will be denied the right to strike or to compensate for rising conditions of the people of the state and to promote general welfare.

Trade unionists show that if there was a desire to prevent strikes or to do the things they allege they desire, they would have stated in three large strikes now being waged in this city.

About 50,000 railroad workers are attempting to enforce compliance with an agreement that does not expire until next June.

Several thousand butcher workers are striking against wage reductions and are struggling independent packers who have harmonious relations with their employes.

Ten thousand milk wagon drivers are on strike over wage differences with milk companies that have declared for the anti-union shop. These companies have refused to arbitrate and Dr. Copeland, health commissioner of this city, has stated, publicly, that the attitude of the companies is endangering the public health.

The New York board of trade and transportation affects a bleak ignorance of these conditions while it urges handcuffing workers to their jobs on the plea of public peace, public health and the people's general welfare.

to be to feed it out to the public in small doses that anti-union sentiment may be developed in favor of it.

The following jumble of words, that sound like Allen of Kansas, but are New York product, of the bill are confusing the public:

"Its prime purpose is to preserve public peace, protect public health, prevent industrial strife, disorder and waste, to secure the regular and orderly conduct of the business of the state, and improving conditions of the people of the state and to promote general welfare."

Trade unionists show that if New York employers were honestly striving to do the things they allege they desire, they would have stated in three large strikes now being waged in this city.

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"Public Credit For Public Purposes Can Solve Cyclical Unemployment" —PRESIDENT GOMPERS

Washington, Jan. 7.—Public credit for public purposes is one of the major suggestions by President Gompers in a program issued by him for the purpose of solving the problem of seasonal and cyclical unemployment.

The trade unionist shows that public credit can be based on absolutely sound security which will pay for themselves many times over in the increased productive capacity of the nation.

The chief fields for the new extension of public credit for public purposes are: Land reclamation, water conservation, inland waterways (canals, rivers, harbors), public highways (roads), forestry, housing, railroad.

The following portion of the program indicates its possibilities:

"Development of such part of the 200,000,000 undeveloped Water horsepower in this country as would find an immediate market. This development to include the powers at Muscle Shoals on the Tennessee and Long Sault on the St. Lawrence, and others in the Appalachians, the Rocky mountains and the Pacific coast ranges."

President Gompers is opposed to doles, known as unemployment insurance, and quotes the experience of British trade unionists to support his position.

"The problem of unemployment can be solved," he says. "Seasonal unemployment can be almost eliminated. Cyclical unemployment is a social crime of the highest order and no society which permits it to continue can expect to survive.

"As long as men and women, eager to work, in a country filled with untold riches of materials and land, are denied the opportunity to work and maintain themselves properly, our society is bankrupt in its most important essential."

Retailers Want Help; Ignore Labor's Cause

Washington, Jan. 7.—Small business interests are paying little attention to the charge of organized butcher workmen that the meat packers' trust is attempting to establish industrial serfdom.

These business men, however, are alarmed at the encroachments of the packers in their business and are calling on congress and the courts to aid them.

At tariff hearings before the senate finance committee shoe manufacturers said there was a danger of that industry falling into the hands of the meat packers because of their control of hides.

Wholesale grocers are also fighting the meat packers, who threaten to control the nation's food supply. It has been found that the agreement between the packers and Attorney General Palmer—by which the packers would confine themselves to the production of meat—has not been complied with. The packers have not relinquished control of their vegetable and other food lines, and the grocers are worried.

The business men indicate little sympathy, however, with the butcher workmen, who show that the meat octopus is reducing the purchasing power of thousands of employes and, is lowering working conditions.

Even is the public blinded to the labor policy of the meat trust. Recently the New York Times advoted a column editorial in defense of the packers' control of hides, which were organized to serve as a wage-reduction shibi.

IMPORTING TROUBLE.

New York, Jan. 7.—"If the state of Kansas has tried out an industrial court and found it effective in the settling of disputes, it is in settling them after they were before the courts. It would be some job in a bill drawn to establish a similar court in New York," says the New York Times, "but the facts are the opposite. Kansas has tried out a court which has found that it not only fails to prevent or settle strikes, but actually creates the greatest obstacles to an understanding between capital and labor, other single cause, for more walkouts, lockouts and fights to a finish since its adoption than any other single cause.

"An industrial court which has no liability in Kansas, because a state mainly agricultural, could be nothing more than a costly nuisance in a state with the complex, intercalated industries and industrial life of a metropolitan district is a growing, evolving affair, a struggle in which clashing interests must be harmonized or neutralize in a new balance of power. Only by such means could make the necessary frequent adjustments, because there are no legal standards to settle the problems of hours and wages."

PARTY LINES WEAKEN.

Washington, Jan. 7.—The weakening of party lines in the national lawmaking body alarms the nonpartisan league, which is on guard. For years special interests have secretly operated in the lobbying field and all about this bloc by men who are now protesting against the formation of parties to defy party discipline and publicly announce their purpose.

The senate farm bloc is the present concern of special interests and its defenders. Groups representing economic interests, organized along nonpartisan lines, is the nightmare of the old-line parties, operated under party discipline.

The breaking of party rule marks the beginning of a new era in legislation, and is in line with 40-year efforts of the A. F. of L.

The "old guard" is bewildered because its orders are being ignored. Various methods have been discussed to check the new movement, but it is generally believed that will restore the good old days.

CITED FOR CONTEMPT.

Hudson Falls, N. Y., Jan. 7.—Supreme Court Justice McPhillips has cited John T. Burke and Fred Foreman to court as they should not be punished for contempt of court in violating an injunction order. The former is president and the latter is vice president of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers' union. The injunction was issued at the request of the International Paper Company.

Marcus Sweeney, a striker, was fined $50 by Justice McPhillips for throwing a snowball at a strikebreaker.

FRANCE GRANTS AMNESTY.

New York, Jan. 7.—According to an Associated Press dispatch from France, all French soldiers under single court martial convictions for purely military crimes committed in the war period have received amnesty.

Exceptions were made in the case of those convicted of treason, spying, correspondences with the enemy, desertion and embezzlement of army funds.

HUMANITY BLIND AS MICE, SAYS NEW YORK SCULPTOR

New York, Jan. 7.—"Humanity is as blind as mice in throwing away the natural beauty they are so taken up with the selfish gains of the moment," said George Grey Barnard, sculptor, in opposing the destruction of a great rock-cliff on the Hudson river that apartment houses may be built.

The sculptor said that while people must have houses to live in, they should also breathe. He said that only who favor the present plan would gladly sell "every inch of the city's park system for private gain."

The destruction of this hill, said the sculptor, is "another step toward away the beauties of nature and the ages for selfish exploitation and financial gain."

"There must be a greater perception and conception of the future, if our forefathers had not set aside our squares and parks, where would we be now, generally as we are running up to the stars?"

EXTEND CONTRACT PLAN.

Marion, O., Jan. 7.—The Erie railroad announces that a private company will employ track laborers and that the work is being handled by the Chicago division of that road.

The company is composed of men who favor the present plan would gladly sell "every inch of the city's park system for private gain."

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GARMENT WORKERS WIN.

Chicago, Jan. 7.—After a month's strike more than 5,000 members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union have reached an agreement with employers.

The 44-hour week is retained, as is the week work system and collective rates. The open shop agencies of production has been referred to a joint committee and an impartial chairman.

The settlement was made possible when the nine being used abandoned the New York war cry: "Down with the 44-hour week, the 44-hour week and the wage standards." Prior to the strike the employers emphasized the need of greater production, but the unionists insisted this cry be set aside and to discuss the matter in a sensible manner when peace was restored.

ALLEN IS EXPENSIVE.

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 7.—"Taxpayers' leagues are a big burden on the citizens of Kansas counties," says the Kansas Trades Unionist, "are devoting considerable time to Governor Allen's industrial court expenses and his bills are being paid by the taxpaying tribute. The Kansas farmer may be down and out financially, but he is still able to arise politically, and there will be a "harrowing" experience for some of the court's campaign.

NON-UNION MOTORCYCLE.

Springfield, Mass., Jan. 7. — The Hendee Indian manufacturer is now factured under anti-union conditions. The Hendee manufacturing company has established an agreement with its organized employes and will hereafter operate as an anti-union shop.

Resistive Aliens Would Be Expelled

Washington, Jan. 7.—Secretary of Labor Davis recommends that congress amend the registration of every alien, his wife and minor children, who would be educated along lines set forth in the "Law for Americanization."

The cabinet member declares that the plan would not provide an espionage system, but, "such registration would, I am sure," naturally bring into notice the alien who declares himself or is known to be an anarchist, whose intentions are hostile or resistive, or who is found to be undesirable."

Under the present immigration laws, a declared or known anarchist can be deported, but the secretary of labor would extend this power by including those who are "resistive or who in for any other reason undesirable."

The steel trust would hardly overlook such a law if it were enforced in 1919 when steel workers participated in the public mind as attempting to overthrow the government when they struck strenuously for higher wages. The committee to discuss wages, hours and conditions of labor.

Under the registration plan, according to the secretary, the department of justice would have complete file of every "resistive" alien in the land. The congress would take charge of the education of alien minor children. Decisions by the United States supreme court are quoted to prove that the proposal is constitutional.

LAWYERS' UNION RULES.

New York, Jan. 7.—The working rules of the lawyers' union now include a rule against any member being employed by a newspaper to answer questions on law and legal rights. As this policy would restrict the activities of lawyers, it generally practiced by newspapers, the committee on professional ethics of the New York county lawyers' association says:

"In the opinion of the committee the course suggested is objectionable. Because it regards it as improper advertising, and it considers that the answering of legal questions involving the legal rights of the inquirers to whom the attorney does not sustain a professional relation, is not to be approved, because it tends to diminish the sense of personal responsibility of the attorney to the person so inquiring, and it is introduces an intermediary who furnishes the professional service."

CAN'T JAIL WITNESSES.

New York, Jan. 7.—Justice Benedict of the supreme court in Brooklyn has ruled that the state statute which provides for the detention of material witness is unconstitutional and is an "unwarranted restriction on the liberty of the individual." Its said that witnesses in the future will not even a suspicion of wrong doing were sometimes imprisoned for long periods when they were unable to furnish bail in large amounts.

LESS TUBERCULOSIS.

Washington, Jan. 7.—The trend of the tuberculosis death rate is downward, the census bureau announces, which reports that the mortality in 1920 from this cause was 112,806, or a reduction of 15,000 from the previous year.

"Of the 23 states in the registration area whose rate for more than one year has been 25 show a lower rate for the year 1920," it is stated. "The rate for these 23 states compared with 125